9. **J. Chokkarao Lift Irrigation Scheme**

The estimated cost of the project to which, investment clearance has been accorded by the planning commission is Rs. 6016 crore. The latest estimated cost of the project is Rs. 9300 crore for which, the State Government is required to obtain revised investment clearance. Further, in order to avoid thin spreading of the resources, only one project of a State is at present being considered for inclusion in the scheme of national projects.

10. **Bargi Diversion Project**

The proposal submitted by the Narmada Valley Development Authority, Government of Madhya Pradesh in September, 2009 is not in accordance with the guidelines of the scheme of national projects as issued by the Ministry of Water Resources in February, 2009. The State Government has been advised to frame proposal as per guidelines.

Clearance for Kochi Metro Rail Project

*110. SHRI P. RAJEEVE:
SHRI P.R. RAJAN:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken by Government on the Kochi Metro Rail Project;

(b) if not, the reason for not giving approval to the project;

(c) whether his Ministry has formulated any specific guidelines and criteria for sanctioning of the Metro project; and

(d) whether the Planning Commission has given clearance for this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA RAY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The proposal is under consideration of the Government.

(c) Normally projects having high traffic demand of 20,000 peak hour peak direction traffic (PHPDT) or more and which will have sufficient operational sustainability are considered, if duly supported by Comprehensive Mobility Plan and an Alternatives analysis.

(d) Yes, Sir.

Development of sports in rural areas

*111. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any programme for the promotion and development of games and sports in rural areas of the country; and

(b) if so, the details of policies and programmes framed by Government for the purpose?

THE MINISTER FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government has, for the first time, introduced a centrally sponsored scheme with national coverage for promotion of basic sports infrastructure and sports competitions in all village and block panchayats of the country under Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA). The Eleventh Five Year Plan outlay for this scheme, launched in the Financial Year 2008-09 is Rs. 1500 crore. The scheme envisages to cover around 2.50 lakh village panchayats and 6,400 block panchayats (including their equivalent units) in a phased manner over a period of ten years at an annual coverage of 10%.

The following pattern of assistance has been provided under the scheme:—

Sl. No.	Component	Village Panchayat	Block Panchayat
1.	One-time Capital Grant (75:25) basis between Centre and State Government; (90:10) basis in the case of special category States/North Eastern States	Rs. 1 lakh	Rs. 5 lakh
	100% central grant		
2.	Annual Acquisition Grant	Rs. 10,000/-	Rs. 20,000/-
3.	Annual Operational Grant	Rs. 12,000/-	Rs. 24,000/-
4.	Annual Competition Grant		
	a. Block Level Competition	Rs. 50,000/-	
	b. District Level Competition	Rs. 3 lakh (it includes Rs. 1 lakh for inter-school competition at District level)	
	c. State Level Competition	Rs. 10 lakh for each State Rs. 5 lakh for each Union Territory	
	d. National Level Competition	Rs. 70 lakh@ Rs. 3.5 lakh per discipline for 20 disciplines.	
5.	Prize money for winners in the block and district level competitions		
	a. Block level competition	Rs. 25,000/-, Rs. 15,000/- and Rs. 5,000/- prize money for village panchayats securing first three positions.	
	b. District level competition	Rs. 50,000/- Rs. 30,000/- and Rs. 10,000/- for block panchayat's securing first three positions	
6.	North East Sports Festival/games	As per admissible grant	

During 2008-09, financial assistance amounting to Rs. 250.77 crore was sanctioned to 24 States for creation of sports infrastructure in 22,854 Village and 601 Block Panchayats. During 2009-10 (upto 31-10-2009) financial assistance amounting to Rs. 14.64 crore has been sanctioned to 5 States for creation of sports infrastructure in 1,261 Village Panchayats and 53 Block Panchayats. The details of funds released during 2008-09 and 2009-2010 are given below:—

(Rupees in crore)

Year	Funds released
2008-09	92.00
2009-10	99.78 (upto 31-10-2009)

Under this scheme, annual competitions are organized in PYKKA sports disciplines throughout the country at block, district, state and national levels. Apart from broad basing sports, the scheme is expected to expand the talent base for the promotion of excellence in sports in the long-run.

Reading time in the National Library at Kolkata

*112. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the reading time in the National Library at Kolkata has been reduced;

(b) if so, whether the readers, both domestic and foreign, are facing a problem; and

(c) if so, the action Government has taken to resolve the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The National Library, Kolkata has four buildings namely, (I), Main Building, (II) Bhasha Bhavan, (III) Annexe Building and (IV) New Annexe Building within the library campus at Belvedere, within walking distance of each other. The Esplande Reading Room is located 10 kms. away from the Belvedere Campus. The main Building has been declared as a "Heritage Building" and needs immediate restoration and conservation. For this purpose, the building has been vacated for handing over to the ASI for restoration. All books, documents and reading materials have been shifted to the Bhasha Bhavan and other buildings. The Annexe building has several reading rooms, including the Asutosh Collection and Rare Books. The Indian Official Document Divisions Reading Room and the English Periodical Reading Room were housed in this building. Presently the English Periodical Reading Room has been shifted to the second floor of the Bhasha Bhavan and remains open from 9.00 a.m. to 8.00 p.m. The Indian Official Document Division's Reading Room remains open from 9.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. in the Annexe Building and from 6.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m., the services to it are provided from the Bhasha Bhavan Reading Room. As soon as the work of shifting is over, the earlier arrangement will be restored.